

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include formal drawings for Figs. 1-4. These replacement sheets, which include Figs. 1-4, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1-4.

REMARKS

The following remarks are submitted to address the above amendments and issues raised in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed September 29, 2005, and in the Official Action mailed March 16, 2005.

Following entry of amendments herein, claims 1-6, 9-11, 13-17, 24, 29-34, and 36-39 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6, 9-11, 13-17, 29-34, and 36-39 stand allowed. Claims 19-22 and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,221,893 to Glaberson et al. Claims 23-24 and 28 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

No new matter has been added. Amendments are made for the purpose of clarifying the subject matter. Support for requested amendments can be found in the original claims and throughout the present specification and drawings. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Drawings

The objections to the drawings as being dark and difficult to view and not showing every feature of the claimed invention are respectfully traversed.

The Official Action states that the drawings are objectionable in that they are dark and difficult to view; that the drawings do not show every feature of the claimed invention as required by 37 CFR § 1.83(a); that, in particular, the drawings do not show the subject matter of claims 7, 8, 12, 13, 18, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, and 40; and that correction is required. (Official Action, para. 1.) The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment indicates that the amendment document filed on September 15, 2005, is considered non-compliant because it failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.21, in that the drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," as required by 37 CFR 1.21(d).

Applicant respectfully submits herein replacement sheets including formal drawings that clearly show the drawings in Figs. 1-4, as originally submitted, and that are not dark or difficult to view. These replacement sheets are labeled as "Replacement Sheets" in the top margin, as required by 37 CFR 1.21(d). Applicant cancels claims 7, 8, 12, 18, 23, 28, 35, and 40 in the Amendment mailed on September 15, 2005.

For all of these reasons, the Office is respectfully requested to withdraw the objections to the drawings.


CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that a full and complete response has been made herein to the Official Action and, as such, all pending claims in this application are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests early consideration of the present application, entry of all amendments herein requested, withdrawal of all rejections and objections, and allowance of all pending claims.

The Office is respectfully invited to contact J. Michael Boggs at (336) 747-7536, to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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